Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A slidingly detachable core member comprising a body section ~~defining a hollow cylinder and a sliding section integrally connected with one axial end of said body section, said sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of said body section, characterized in that: said body section includes a plurality of~~ including two or more plate-like portions capable of being combined with each other to form said hollow cylinder; and

two or more sliding sections, each individual sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of each individual plate-like portion.

~~each of said plate-like portions is individually provided with said sliding section in an adjacent manner.~~

2. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions comprise mutually independent parts.

3. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said body section further includes a joint portion pivotably connecting said plate-like portions with each other, said plate-like portions mutually adjoining in a form of said hollow cylinder.

4. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 3, wherein said joint portion is structured to deform under an external force to allow said mutually adjoining plate-like portions to be pivoted.

5. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions are respectively provided with engagable end faces capable of being engaged with each other in a form of said hollow cylinder; and wherein said body section further includes reinforcing portions formed in peripheral end regions, including said engagable end faces, of said plate-like portions for holding said plate-like portions in a form of said hollow cylinder against an external force.

6. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 5, wherein said reinforcing portions are formed in said engagable end faces, adapted to be engaged with each other, of said mutually adjoining plate-like portions, and respectively include concave and convex configurations detachably fitted with each other.

7. (Currently Amended) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 6, further comprising fastening sections releasably fastening said ~~sliding section~~ sliding

sections, turned over and laid on said outer circumferential surface of said body section, on said outer circumferential surface.

8. (Currently Amended) A cold shrink tube unit comprising an elastic tube member with an opening end and a hollow cylindrical slidingly detachable core member removably provided inside a seal region of said elastic tube member, having a predetermined length from said opening end, to hold said seal region in an elastically expanded state, characterized in that:

said core member comprises ~~said slidingly detachable core member as set forth in claim 1;~~ a body section including two or more plate-like portions capable of being combined with each other to form said hollow cylinder;

two or more sliding sections, each individual sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of each individual plate-like portion of the body section; and

said slidingly detachable core member is provided inside said seal region with said sliding section ~~turned over and laid on said outer circumferential surface of said body section and~~ interposed between said body section and said seal region of said elastic tube member.

9. (New) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 8, wherein each individual sliding section is integrally connected with an axial end of each individual plate-like portion.

10. (New) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein each individual sliding section is integrally connected with an axial end of each individual plate-like portion.